

Remarks

The specification has been amended to correct minor typographical errors and to reflect the renumbering/renaming of the Replacement drawings submitted herewith.

The Notice to File Missing Parts dated September 23, 2004, required replacement drawings in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.84 and 37 CFR § 1.121.

Submitted herewith are 15 sheets of drawings containing FIGS. 1A, 2A-2B, 3, 4, 5, 6A, 6B, 6C, 7A, 7B, 8, 9A, 9B, 10A, and 10B-10C, labeled Replacement sheets, and one sheet of drawing containing FIG. 1B, labeled New sheet.

Originally submitted Fig. 1 sheet has been split into two sheets, FIG. 1A (Replacement sheet) and FIG. 1B (New sheet). Originally submitted sheet for Fig. 2 has been amended to reflect FIGS. 2A and 2B (Replacement sheet). Originally submitted sheet for Fig. 5, line 6 from the bottom, has been amended from "26" to "C26" (Replacement sheet) to correct a minor typographical error. Originally submitted sheet for Figs. 6/1, 6/2 and 6/3 has been amended to reflect FIGS. 6A, 6B and 6C, respectively (Replacement sheet). Originally submitted sheet for Figs. 7/1 and 7/2 has been amended to reflect FIGS. 7A and 7B, respectively (Replacement sheet).

These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Applicants believe the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Judith U. Kim

Judith U. Kim
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 40,679

Date: November 23, 2004

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600